

Please cancel claims 3 and 20.

Please amend claims 1 and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A computing system with a key-ordered list of data objects distributed over a plurality of servers which allows discrete parallel processing on said servers, comprising:

(a) a self contained key-ordered list of data objects;

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1
(b) a plurality of memories in a plurality of servers, each memory containing a segment of the self contained key-ordered list of data objects where each segment consists of a contiguous subset of said objects having keys with a specified range; and

(c) a query processor which receives queries and, based on data content of the query, directs each received query to one of said plurality of servers by comparing the data content of the query to the specified range of keys for each segment.

16. (Amended) A method of operating a computing system with a key-ordered list of objects distributed over a plurality of servers which allows discrete parallel processing on said servers, comprising:

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2
(a) creating a self contained key-ordered list of data objects;

(b) operating a plurality of servers with a plurality of memories, each memory containing a segment of the self contained key-ordered list of data objects where each segment consists of a contiguous subset of said objects having keys with a specified range; and

(c) operating a query processor which receives queries and, based on data content of the query, directs each received query to one of said plurality of servers by comparing the data content of the query to the specified range of keys for each segment.